

REMARKS

Claims 1-25 have been canceled and new claims 26-37 have been submitted. Accordingly, claims 26-37 are now pending in this application.

35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1, 3-5, 7-9, 11-12, 14, 16-18 and 20-25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bobde et al. (U.S. Appl. Pub. No. 20030217099 - hereafter "Bobde") and Trinon et al. (US Application Pub. No. 20020138571 - hereafter "Trinon"). These rejections are considered moot in light of the cancellation of these claims.

Discussion Of New Claims

Bobde discloses that the first computing device generates a presence information related to a first user to establish presence with a server. When a second user wishes to gain access to the presence information of the first user, a second computing device sends a subscribe message to the server. The subscribe message alerts the server that the second user wants to subscribe as a watcher of the first computing device and the corresponding first user (see, e.g., paragraphs [0024]-[0026]). In other words, the second computing device has to know of and identify the first computing device for which presence information is requested. Therefore, according to Bobde, the second computing device does not send a

request to the server without specifying a first user of a first computing device as a target of the request.

Under the present invention, however, a third computer does not need to know of or recognize a second computer or know of the second program on the second computer. Instead, the third computer just sends a request to a first program on the first computer. Then, the first computer determines, from association information stored on the first computer, a second program on the second computer that is associated with the first program on the first computer, and sends a request to the second program. Accordingly, the present invention is different from Bobde, and is not taught or suggest by Bobde, Trinon, or any combination thereof.

Further, the prior art also does not disclose or suggest the features recited in the dependent claims, such as: a fourth computer collecting location information related to where the first and second programs are stored; or, that the association information includes a hierarchy information; or, that the fourth computer determines which program of the first or second programs is of a higher level than its associated program; or, that the first program and second program are executed as programs related to a common function. Accordingly, these claims are also patentable over the art of record.

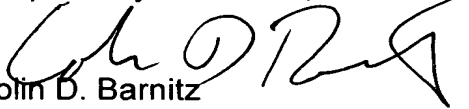
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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,


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